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Ousted Yank A Spy: Soviet

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MOSCOW, Aug. 5 (AP).—The newspaper *Trud* said today an American exchange student at Moscow University was expelled from the Soviet Union last month for espionage. It identified him as Harvard graduate Edwin Morrell, 20, of Salt Lake City, Utah.

The U.S. Embassy said it was true Morrell had been asked to leave, but charges that he was engaged in intelligence activities as made by the newspaper, were news to us.

(Morrell said in Salt Lake City he would issue a statement after conferring with the Inter-University Committee on Travel Grants at Bloomington, Ind. He said he would not answer specific charges until he received a complete translation of the statement in the Russian paper. He added that his statement today would only generally concern his year in Russia.)

ACCORDING TO the Embassy, Morrell was writing a thesis of Communist leaders in Soviet trade unions and he had his program wholly approved by the Russians before he left the U.S. The Embassy said once he got here, there was a Soviet reversal. Finally the university accused Morrell of failing to submit the thesis to his faculty advisor at the proper time.

The Embassy said Morrell told them that was certainly true because the Soviet had failed to make the promised contacts for him on which the thesis was to be based.

This dispute led to Morrell's being asked to leave, the Embassy said, adding that no charge of espionage was concerned. "It certainly is a true," The Embassy said it kept quiet about the incident at Morrell's request.

Trud said Morrell had been expelled from Czechoslovakia 10 years ago as a spy. The Embassy said Morrell was a Morrell had been on a visa or missionary work for research in Czechoslovakia and was left to expulsion.